

FLYING SAUCER DIGEST

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ON THE COVER

On November 2, 1971, at about 7 p.m., sixteen-year-old Ronald Johnson was outside, at the Johnson farm, in Delphos, Kansas, when he heard a "rumble." According to the boy's testimony, he suddenly saw a brightly illuminated object, about 75 feet away, hovering about two feet above the ground. He ran into the house to tell his parents and was soon joined by them, as they observed the circular light departing in the southern sky. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson then went with Ronald to the apparent "landing spot" and found what they described as a glowing ring-shaped area.

According to Ronald Johnson, the object was about ten feet in diameter, with a distinct bulge at the center. He said it glowed with multicolored lights, "like the light of a welder's arc."

As it passed over the shed, the rumbling noise changed to a high-pitched sound "like a jet."

When Mr. and Mrs. Johnson went to the area where Ronald claimed he had first seen the object, they said they found a glowing, phosphorescent ring-shaped area on the ground.

On the night of the event, the moon was full and would have illuminated the area at the time in question. A photograph was taken of the area, on the night of the alleged landing, by Mrs. Johnson, which indicates the ring's surface to be highly reflective in contrast to normal soil.

After touching the ring soil (which was described by Mr. and Mrs. Johnson as cool, moist, and blistered), the couple noted that the ends of their fingers were numb. This condition persisted in Mrs. Johnson for several weeks and in Mr. Johnson for about one week.

UFO BITS AND PIECES

by Allan J. Manak

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT RELEASES UFO REPORTS

Several snowmobilers see a round yellowish light assume the shape of a star. It moves slowly westward, like a balloon on a string, then suddenly disappears.

A number of people witness a large triangle-shaped object pass quickly above a Yukon lake under a full moon.

It makes a loud noise, but has no lights and leaves no vapour trail.

A Prairie family finds some of their cattle mutilated. A few years later, they discover a two-meter crop circle in one of their fields.

The mysterious stories are just a few of the unusual reports from people across the country who have encountered things they simply could not explain.

The Defence Department has just released a batch of the documents, known in military circles as CIRVIS reports, short for Communications Instructions for Reporting Vital Intelligence Sightings.

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The names of people who claimed to see the strange phenomena have been deleted, but the memos provide some intriguing glimpses of the eerie episodes.

Some, such as the "large greenish flare" seen over Northern Ontario in January 1997, can be fairly easily explained as meteors. But others are a little more baffling.

Army Sergeant Clay Rankin remembers the spring day in 1997 in Tuktoyaktuk, N.W.T., when a local woman reported being followed by two cone-shaped UFOs as she drove home with four companions.

"She seemed pretty sincere about it," Sgt. Rankin recalled in an interview. "What it was, I'm not sure."

The official report says bright blue light shone from windows in the twin objects as they moved through the Arctic sky about one kilometre behind the car.

"They were followed for approximately 15 minutes when contact was lost."

Sgt. Rankin, 38, duly filed his report with superiors at Canadian Forces Northern Area Headquarters.

Still, he doubts the existence of extraterrestrial spacecraft. "I've never seen one myself," said Sgt. Rankin.

"I'm not one of those *X-Files* fans or anything like that."

A bizarre incident near Marmora, Ont., last February might have made believers out of three people who saw white and orange lights flying above the ice on Crowe Lake.

A similar sighting took place in Ottawa on a clear July evening. Witnesses told the National Defence Operations Center of a display by four or five glowing objects that moved about chaotically, "merging and separating at random" for almost an hour before vanishing.

A woman in Coral Harbour, N.W.T., was starting her snowmobile one morning last January when she gazed over the water and saw a large blue ball and two, smaller red balls followed by sparkles.

"As the large ball got closer to me, it picked up speed and the colour changed from blue to red," she told the military. "As it passed overhead it changed colours again from red to orange, then to yellow, then headed up into the sky."

The report lists the incident as a possible "UFO/submarine sighting."

Officials were at a loss, however, to explain the June, 1997, Yukon sighting of the black, triangle-shaped object over Lake Laberge. "A number of aircraft were in the area around the reported time, but none remotely resembled the object's description." Source: Jim Bronskill, *The National Post*, December 22, 1998 via *DELVE Report*, Jan. 1999.

TRUTH AND IMAGINATION

On Tuesday, July 2, 1968 a fireball was sighted throughout the northeastern United States from the Atlantic to Ohio. It was also seen in Quebec and Ontario. Three professional pilots in separate airliners reported seeing the flaming object. All thought it was a meteor.

After reports of an unidentified object "as big as a house" falling from the sky near St. Alphonse, Quebec, about 40 miles north of Montreal, townspeople felt they were being invaded by little men from outer space.

An egg-shaped rock found in the middle of a burned patch of grass near St. Paul, Quebec, was guarded by Paul-Emile Desbiens, a 73-year-old farmer, with a shotgun until federal authorities could analyze it.

There were some nude little men reports and they were checked out by

Constable Michel Michaud and a fellow policeman. They arrived on the scene in time to see them jump into a ditch and flee.

When SS&S checked this story out with a member of the Montreal UFO Study Group we found that the "nude little men" turned out to be two little boys who ran away from home in the Laurentian village of Joliette. The children were not naked. The rock of Mr. Desbiens upon analysis was ordinary sedimentary rock with fossils in it. The meteor was said to have landed in the St. Boniface - Melanie area.

A ham radio operator was believed to be responsible for the little men reports. Police were of the opinion that the operator with fuzzy reception picked up police radio messages on runaway children, misinterpreted the messages, and started the rumor of Martians in the area.

All the sightings took place at about 9:30 p.m. In Woodstock, Ont., a flaming object in the sky is believed to have been the meteor, OPP said. A private plane searched the Innerkip area for an hour following a report from a man who believed he saw a burning aircraft two miles SE of Interkip. The object was about 1,000 feet in the air.

Some witnesses allowed themselves to dream...Daniel Lachance affirmed to have seen his companions change color with the passing of the meteor.

And from Wooler, Ontario Fred Coulthard's two sons thought they saw a flying saucer land that same night. Now invisible beings go whoosh in the night and smell like roses. Fred Coulthard believes "they are beings from another galaxy who are much cleverer than we are." The parish priest thinks someone is "playing tricks". Smashed windows, knocked dishes and tableware to the floor and terrified a cat, a tube of shampoo flying through the air, a hurled deck of playing cards thrown at Wayne Coulthard, age 20. Fred and his sons tried to get a photograph of the mysterious visitors. Fred Jr., 24, an armed services corporal stationed at Petawawa, said that when he heard noises he came out of hiding and tried to take a picture, but all he could see was "small, dark, heavy shadows." A neighbor, Butch Mallory took a tape recorder and picked up noises he called "spirits" visitations.

Poltergeist activity is quite often the result of "emotional stress or instability" and usually happens when there are young persons around. As for the "flying saucer", it is undoubtedly the meteor which was seen over a large part of the countryside that night. Source: Gene Duplantier, *Saucers, Space and Science Revisited*, 1984.

COLLECTOR'S CORNER

These are the last of the soft cover books. Postage is free and great low prices. *Aids To Identification Of Flying Objects* - 1968, U.S. Government publication - \$2.75. *Environments Out There* - 1967 by Asimov - \$2.75. *The Unexplained* - 1967 (Strange Phenomena) - \$2.75. *The Book Of The Damned* - \$2.75. Send orders to UAPA Magazines, P.O. Box 347032 Cleveland, Ohio 44134.

AROUND AND ABOUT THE SAUCER WORLD

by Rick Hilberg

SPECIAL OFFER ON UAPA'S NEWEST PUBLICATION

I've just completed one of my most favorite UAPA publications - one that I think you'll be interested in. While I've been writing about UFOs

for almost 40 years now, I've noticed all manner of strange phenomena and happenings somehow seem to be closely related to the UFO saga itself. Indeed, I wouldn't be a bit surprised if what we term "fortean" happenings aren't generated from the same source as "UFOs". That's what you will find in *Rick Hilberg's Book Of Weirdology*, the whole spectrum of unexplained phenomena. Here's a small sample of *Weirdology's* contents: FLYING SAUCERS AND LIGHT BEAM COMMUNICATION - - THE ARKANSAS "WATER PANTHER" - - MYSTERY CATS - - PENNSYLVANIA "THUNDERBIRDS" - - JOE SIMONTON AND HIS "SPACE PANCAKES" - - STRANGE "STUFF" FROM THE SKY - - MYSTERY LIGHTS - - BIGFOOT - - UFOs - - THE "BARDIN BOOGER" - - STRANGE CREATURES - - AND MUCH MORE!

Now here's my offer to you: Order *Rick Hilberg's Book Of Weirdology* for only \$5.95 postpaid, and receive a free copy of my 1998 booklet *Around And About The Saucer World*, a \$9.95 value.

Send your orders to Rick Hilberg's Book Offer, 377 Race St. Berea, Ohio 44017. Please make checks or money orders payable to Rick Hilberg.
NEW MOVIE BASED ON KEEL BOOK

Richard Gere is in final negotiations to star in "The Mothman Prophecies," a sci-fi feature about a reporter who leaves his paper to pursue a series of strange events in a small town and realizes they point to an alien visitation. "Mothman" is based on John A. Keel's account of his investigation of UFO reports around Point Pleasant, W. Va., in the late 1960's. Source: *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, March 3, 1999.

ALLEGED "UFO DEBRIS" FOR SALE

The following bizarre story is from the Associated Press newswire of February 9th with a Tucson dateline:

One might not notice a potato-sized gray and green rock if it weren't for its \$69,000 price tag.

But Ron Ruiz, owner of the Oro Valley-based Stone People Products, says there is good reason for the price. He claims the item is the remains of a liquid-hulled alien spaceship that crashed in St. Joseph, Mo., in 1947.

"It seems like an awfully high amount, but there is very little of it," Ruiz told the *Arizona Daily Star*.

But Tucson astronomer and self-proclaimed skeptic James McGaha said the alleged UFO debris looks a lot like slag - the fused remains separated from metal during the smelting process.

"The sad thing is that there are nutty UFO people out there that might buy it for \$69,000," said McGaha, chairman of Tucson Skeptics and a consultant for the Committee for Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal.

Several people have already paid Ruiz \$100 a gram for smaller pieces of the alien debris.

Ruiz said the rock is the remains of an alien mother ship that sent out an escape pod that crashed in Roswell in July 1947.

McGaha said the fact that Ruiz is selling alleged UFO remains casts doubts on his story.

"If you thought you had a piece of a real UFO, it would be priceless. You wouldn't cut it up into little pieces and sell it," McGaha said.

NOCTURNAL UFO SIGHTED IN SASKATCHEWAN, CANADA

Willard Sikora isn't sure exactly what he saw but it was real.

The farmer was working in his field northeast of Esterhazy on Aug. 25, when he saw something unusual.

"At first I thought it was a semi-trailer going down the road," he said.

An object with a number of rows of red lights was going across the sky.

"I knew it was higher than the road and was a lot longer than a semi," said Sikora.

Still, he didn't know exactly what it was.

Although it was too far away to see the entire object, Sikora said that rows of lights at either end got closer and closer together, making him suspect that the object was round.

"It was really dark," Sikora said of the encounter that occurred at 10:15 p.m. "It was kind of eerie."

The farmer was driving a swather with no cab when he noticed the lights.

"If I had a cab I may not have seen it at all with the way dash lights reflect on the glass," he said.

The object moved across the sky and stopped near the microwave tower on the Bredenbury grid.

"I could see a bright light going across the sky but I couldn't tell if it was coming from the red lights," he said.

It stayed at the tower for a few moments and then disappeared.

"I don't know what it was but I'm not making it up," he said, adding that he'd have no reason to lie.

Some of the people who heard Sikora's story suspected it was just a falling star. "I've seen enough falling stars to know it wasn't a falling star," he said.

Sikora went home to get his truck and he and his wife looked for the object again but couldn't find it. He later contacted the RCMP but nothing came of his call. Source: Esterhazy, *Saskatchewan Community Review*, December 19, 1998.

ONGOING STRANGENESS IN COLORADO

Journalist Christopher O'Brien, author of the popular "Mysterious Valley" series of books, provided this fascinating update in the January issue of the *Crestone, Eagle*:

After two years of greatly reduced levels of reported anomalous activity, reports of unusual activity increased dramatically in the fall of 1998. Here are several intriguing reports as reported to this investigator of "the unusual" as witnessed here in the San Luis Valley.

Saturday, November 14 at 9:15 a.m. over the Smith Reservoir area - west of Blanca, CO: Junne Walkley was returning from dropping her relatives off when, while driving south on Rd. 106, she noticed "a great big silver V" hovering over Smith Reservoir. She stopped the car and watched for around a minute. She estimated it was about 10 miles away to the east and estimated its size as a quarter held at arm's length. After watching for a minute the object appeared to go straight up and out of sight in "a couple of seconds." She is amazed nobody else reported the craft. She is sending a sketch of the object which is similar to the October 18 sighting at 6:15 a.m. on the west side of the Valley. (Jenne and her husband Virgil are two of my very best and observant skywatchers.)

Wednesday November 17 at sunset over Greenie Mountain: a relative of the Walkleys, "a strong skeptic," witnessed three objects hovering over the San Juan Mountains near Greenie Ridge. The objects appeared to be reflecting the setting sun and sitting "still." Then, the witness

"was amazed" when the objects disappeared instantly. (Very similar to the Arimijo three-object video footage from January 1996.)

On the same day, Wednesday November 17 over Greenie Mountain: I received the following report in the mail - "My wife and I were heading west on the (County Rd.) 10 south road towards Greenie. My wife was driving and I was watching the vapor trails left by the jets flying overhead, when I noticed a bright silver-looking object heading south by southwest just south of Greenie. I watched the object for a few seconds to insure I was seeing what I was seeing. There were a few scattered clouds in the sky, which were part of a front that was supposed to be in the area for the next two days. This object, I would say was flying as high as any one of the jets that were flying in the same area. But two things were different about this object. First of all it was not leaving any vapor trail behind, second of all, I asked my wife to pull over a few minutes so I could check it out a little bit closer. This object was not moving slow like a single engine aircraft would be. It was moving at such a rate that it was out of sight in just seconds from the time we pulled over. Also, it was not moving in a straight line like most aircraft would move in the sky. Due to the altitude, the speed and the way it moved through the sky, I do not believe it to be a chopper or small engine aircraft. It could have been a jet aircraft leaving no vapor trail, but I have my doubts." (I received this report Dec. 13.)

Thursday November 18, 11:15 p.m. over Blanca Peak: an ex-career member of the Air Force called to report "a multi-colored light yo-yoing up and down - like on a string." Two other witnesses were told and they also watched the strange light. One witness reported the light stayed there "almost an hour...before blinking out."

Thursday October 8, 10:30 p.m., Highway 160, 4 miles west of Blanca, CO: R.A.L. West, while headed east on Highway 160 (near the curve 4 miles west of Blanca), observed an amber colored "hemispherical-shaped" light hovering over the Blanca Massif. She estimated the lights size as around Venus-sized. After a few seconds, the object appeared to jump approximately 20 degrees upward. West pulled off the road and parked (with her engine running) to carefully observe the light. The witness is confused and could not completely remember how long she watched, but she guessed "several minutes." The next thing she clearly recalled was the craft flying at a high rate of speed above her car; headed NE to SW. She described a "triangle-shaped array of white and amber lights" blinking sequentially in "patterns" on the underneath side. She could not estimate the craft's altitude, nor was she able to make out the craft's shape or structure. She did not hear any sound except her car engine running. No other cars were on the road in the immediate vicinity, and I have not received any other reports of this event. West mentioned another sighting that may have been military related that occurred on August 5, 1998.

Tuesday October 13, 9:00 p.m., Crestone/Baca Development, CO: a "weird amber-colored light" was observed by four witnesses moving north-to-south. The object appeared to be "way up in the sky," but "...was larger and moving faster than a regular satellite."

Wednesday October 14, 11:30 a.m., Los Cumbres Golf Course. Crestone, CO: golfer on the par four, fourth hole fairway observed a "silver-colored disc hovering over Mt. Adams," (just north of Crestone Peak), about 8 miles north of his location. Object seemed to wobble, but did not appear to be headed anywhere. Golfer made his second shot and could

still see the craft. He headed toward the green watching it. After making his third shot the object had disappeared. He estimated the object was visible for at least 5 minutes.

Tuesday October 27, 9:30 p.m. Center, CO: Center resident Fabian Sauvo reports a anomalous unblinking bright red light directly north of Hooper, CO. The light at times appeared to hover, but seemed to be traveling slowly SW-to-NE.

He called me real-time and I was able to see the object from my roof. Sauvo, after several minutes on the phone to me, was able to describe the above red-lights location, and I observed the light for several seconds before it disappeared into a cloud bank. I waited for awhile, but it never emerged from the cloud. The light seemed to be between 4,000 and 5,000' above the ground and over the sand piles on Highway 17, between Hooper and Moffat. (Rare to get a call and be able to simultaneously see an anomalous object, a UFO [or military craft?] while on the phone with another witness!)

Friday October 29, Baca Grande Development: a resident reports small objects hitting her roof. No hail or rain was present at the time. House is set out in the Valley and has no tall trees within a quarter-mile. Activity is tip of the iceberg. Small hooded figures (about 4' tall) on a couple of occasions have been seen (during the preceding two weeks), running past the windows. Heavy footsteps have been heard in the house, but no one is there. A tapered "hairy-pig" was reportedly seen outside running past the house. (There are no wild/hairy pigs in the SLV to my knowledge. This sounds like a "Prairie Dragon" sighting.) Witness claims she was "slammed into a door" by an unseen force several days earlier. The event left "a bruise on her cheek" and was witnessed by a painter working in the house several feet away.

The following day, Saturday October 30, at 11:00 p.m., same location: same witness observers a foot-long oval-shaped object enter through her back door and slowly head up the hallway toward her. She described the anomaly as being "milky-looking with a reflective band around the rim." The band appeared to be like chrome. The witness was so startled she stopped looking at the object which apparently then disappeared. She estimated, at its closest, it was 10' away from her as it came toward her down the hallway.

Monday Sept. 14, at 6:15 a.m., Highway 285 north of Monte Vista, CO: a Monte Vista resident, while headed north on 285, witnessed a "V-shaped craft hovering over the tops of the mountains to the west." The sun was above the horizon and seemed to reflect off the object "like the sun reflecting on an airplane wing," but the object's structure was still plainly visible to the witness. The witness described the object as looking like "two big rectangular pillars put together in a V-shape...the size of three (commercial jet) airliners." The witness observed the craft for over ten minutes before he traveled too far north and left it behind him - still hovering over the mountains. No one else driving on 285 seemed to notice the object which puzzled the witness because, "it was so big."

If you witness "the unusual," (or would like to obtain signed copies of my books) please report your experience by calling 719-256-4407.

Keep your eyes to the sky, but more importantly, keep your ears to the ground.